

(b) Amendments to the Claims

Kindly cancel Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 14 and 21-50 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend Claims 8, 11, 13, 15-20, and add new Claims 51 and 52. A detailed listing of all the claims that are or were in the application is provided hereafter.

1.-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A function device characterized by being obtained by incorporating a filling functional material into a porous body obtained by removing columnar members from a structure comprised of said columnar members and an area surrounding each of said columnar members, wherein said area is made of an amorphous ~~material~~ Si, or an amorphous  $\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x}$  ( $0 < x < 1$ ), and the average distance between said columnar members is 30nm or less.

9. and 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The function device according to claim 8, wherein said ~~functional~~ filling material includes a conductive material, a magnetic material, a luminescent material ~~[[and]]~~ or a semiconductor material.

12. (Previously Presented) The function device according to claim 8, wherein the length in the depth direction of columnar pores of said porous body is substantially equal to the thickness of the area surrounding said pores.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A function device obtained by filling a porous body with a functional~~ An article comprising a filling material and a porous body, wherein said porous body includes a plurality of columnar pores ~~and an area surrounding the pores and the area~~ said porous body is an amorphous ~~area comprised of C, Si, [[Ge]] or a combination of these materials~~ an amorphous  $\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x}$  ( $0 < x < 1$ ), and the average distance between centers of said pores is 30nm or less.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to claim 13, wherein said plurality of columnar pores ~~has~~ have substantially no branch.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 15~~ claim 13, wherein the average distance between centers of said pores is ~~[[30]]~~ 20 nm or less.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to claim 13, wherein the diameter of said columnar pore is 20 nm or less.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to claim 13, wherein said pores have substantially the same depth direction.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to claim 13, wherein said ~~oxide amorphous area~~ porous body includes aluminum.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~function device~~ article according to claim 13, wherein said porous body is formed on a substrate and the depth direction of said columnar pores is almost perpendicular to said substrate.

21.-50. (Cancelled)

51. (New) The article according to claim 13, wherein said filling material is a conductive material, a magnetic material, a luminescent material or a semiconductor material.

52. (New) An article comprising a plurality of columnar members and an area surrounding the members,

wherein said members include a conductive material, a semiconductor material, a magnetic material or a luminescent material,

wherein said area is an amorphous Si or an amorphous  $\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x}$  ( $0 < x < 1$ ), and

wherein the average distance between centers of said columnar members is 30nm or less.